

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 3, 7-9, and 12 are amended. Claims 1-12 are pending and under consideration.

The Examiner objects to claims 7, 10, and 11, and rejects claims 1-6, 8, 9, and 12.

The objections are overcome, and the rejections traversed.

ENTRY OF AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Applicant requests entry of this Rule 116 Response because it is believed that the amendment of claims 1, 3, 7-9, and 12 put this application into condition for allowance and should not entail any further search by the Examiner since no new features are being added or no new issues are being raised.

Claims 1, 3, 7-9, and 12 are amended as suggested by the Examiner to address informalities, rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, and/or to be rewritten in independent form as discussed below.

PAGES 2-3: CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The Examiner objects to claims 1-12 because of informalities. (Action at pages 2-3). Claims 1, 7, 8, and 9 are amended as suggested by the Examiner, and withdrawal of the objection to claims 1-12 is requested.

PAGES 3-5: CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner rejects claims 1-6, 8, 9, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as indefinite. (Action at pages 4-5).

Claim 1, 3, 8, 9, and 12 are amended as suggested by the Examiner. Applicant submits that claims 1-12 comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph and request the rejection be withdrawn and claims 1-12 be allowed.

PAGE 5: ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indications of allowable subject matter.

The Examiner objects to claim 7, but indicates claim 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 7 is amended herein to be rewritten in independent form and withdrawal of the objection to claim 7 is requested.

The Examiner objects to claims 10-11 as being dependent upon a previously objected claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 10 is dependent on claim 9, and claim 11 is

dependent on claim 7. Claims 7 and 9 are amended herein as suggested by the Examiner. Withdrawal of the objection to claims 10-11 is requested.

The Examiner indicates that claim 1 would be allowable if amended to overcome the rejection of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claim 1 is amended herein as suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner indicates that claims 2-6, 8, 9, and 12 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and to include limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 3, 8, 9, and 12 are amended as suggested by the Examiner. Claims 2-6 are dependent on allowable parent claim 1, as amended. Claims 8-9 and 12 are dependent on allowable parent claim 7, as amended.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 7, 2004

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